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EXAMINER	
KOROBOV, VITALI A	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
2155	

DATE MAILED: 10/20/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/014,177	RAJARAJAN ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Vitali Korobov	2155	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *28 July 2005*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-26* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-26* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

Response to Amendment

1. This Office Action is in response to the amendment filed on 07/28/2005. Claims 1, 18, 24 and 25 were amended. Claim 26 was added. Claims 1-26 are pending in this Office Action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

3. Claims 1-12 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U. S. Patent No. 6857013 B2 by Ramberg et al., hereinafter

Ramberg, in view of the U. S. Patent No. 6681232 to Sistanizadeh et al., hereinafter Sistanizadeh.

With respect to claim 1, Ramberg teaches a system for managing a plurality of resources comprising: a management module in communication with the plurality of resources (Col. 4, lines 35 – 38 - plurality of the ADC device platforms); the management module capable of receiving a request to access information related to one or more of the plurality of resources (Col. 4, lines 29 – 33 for the platform and col. 4, lines 41 – 45 for a particular element of the platform); and in response to the receipt of a request to access information, the management module accesses information from more than one resource (Col. 4, lines 29 – 33, where the platform consist of plurality of elements).

Ramberg does not explicitly teach a system wherein the plurality of resources comprises one or more resources of differing type.

However, Sistanizadeh in analogous art, related to network management, teaches a system wherein the plurality of resources comprise one or more resources of differing type (Fig. 2, showing differing types of resources. See also col. 10, lines 58-61).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skills in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the configuration and query capabilities of Ramberg with plurality of resource types taught by Sistanizadeh. One having ordinary skills in the art would be motivated to combine the teaching of Ramberg and Sistanizadeh in order to provide additional network reliability, security, resource

availability, network configuration flexibility and service profile manageability for a plurality of resource types (Sistanizadeh, col. 1, lines 63-67).

With respect to claim 2, Ramberg teaches a system as defined in claim 1 wherein the management module comprises a configuration manager for receiving information from a plurality of resources and a configuration store for storing predetermined information for the plurality of resources (Col. 6, lines 51 – 54).

With respect to claim 3, Ramberg teaches a system as defined in claim 2 wherein the configuration manager installs resources such that the management module can modify configuration information for the plurality of resources (Col. 6, lines 32 – 35).

With respect to claim 4, Ramberg teaches a system as defined in claim 3 wherein each of the plurality of resources provides information to the configuration manager in XML format (Col. 9, lines 51 – 54).

With respect to claim 5, Ramberg teaches a system as defined in claim 1 wherein each of the plurality of resources manages one or more objects, each object comprising: one or more attributes, each attribute having a data field and a value (Col. 6, lines 51 – 54); one or more associated tasks that may be performed on the object; and wherein the management module accesses attribute and task information from the associated resources in response to a request to access information (Col. 4, lines 18 – 22).

With respect to claim 6, Ramberg teaches a system as defined in claim 5 wherein the attribute information for an object is provided by more than one resource (Col. 4, lines 29 – 33; ADC device platform can comprise many individual ADC devices).

With respect to claim 7, Ramberg teaches a system as defined in claim 6 wherein each object is defined by a property sheet and the attribute information is a property page in the property sheet (Fig. 9, diagnostic and repair sheet 901, incorporating property page for a particular unit 902).

With respect to claim 8, Ramberg teaches a system as defined in claim 6 wherein the task information for an object is provided by more than one resource (Col. 4, lines 29 – 33, i.e. information in response to a status check (task) is provided by the ADC platform, comprising a plurality of units (resources)).

With respect to claim 9, Ramberg teaches a system as defined in claim 6 wherein each object is defined by a property sheet and the task information is in a property page associated with the property sheet (Fig. 8A, 8B and 9 – configurable message with pre-defined fields ("property sheet", as per pages 30, 31 of instant application) has tasks associated with it ("Help", "Next", "Send", etc.) and a property page pointer 902 associated with a particular unit).

With respect to claim 10, Ramberg teaches a system as defined in claim 6 further comprising: a configuration manager for receiving and storing information from a plurality of resources relating to managed objects (Col. 7, lines 63 – 65, "Get" operation – receiving, MIB - storage); and a property sheet manager for receiving and storing

property sheet information related to managed objects (Col. 6, lines 51 – 64, MIB and GUI).

With respect to claim 11, Ramberg teaches a system as defined in claim 1 further comprising: a configuration manager for receiving information from a plurality of resources (Col. 4, lines 10 – 13), each resource having associated objects (Col. 4, lines 10 – 13); a configuration store for storing predetermined information for the plurality of resources (Col. 6, lines 51 – 54); and a search manager adapted to receive predetermined search information from a plurality of resources (Col. 14, lines 42 – 49).

Ramberg does not explicitly teach a search data store adapted to store predetermined search information for the various resources; and wherein the search manager searches the plurality of resources in response to a single search request.

Sistanizadeh on the other hand teaches a search data store adapted to store predetermined search information for the various resources (Col. 2, lines 39-42 - topology, service and customer information databases); and wherein the search manager searches the plurality of resources in response to a single search request (Col. 16, lines 51-55 - single "GET" retrieves multiple objects (resource) variables).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skills in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the configuration and query capabilities of Ramberg with plurality of resource types taught by Sistanizadeh. One having ordinary skills in the art would be motivated to combine the teaching of Ramberg and Sistanizadeh in order to provide additional network reliability, security, resource

availability, network configuration flexibility and service profile manageability for a plurality of resource types (Sistanizadeh, col. 1, lines 63-67).

With respect to claim 12, Ramberg teaches a system as defined in claim 1 wherein the management layer further comprises: a configuration manager for receiving information from a plurality of resources (Col 7, lines 63 – 64, "Get" operation), each resource having associated objects (Col. 4, lines 13 – 16); a configuration store for storing predetermined information for the plurality of resources (Col. 6, line 46 - 54; and a task manager, wherein the task manager receives task information from the configuration manager related to tasks that may be completed in managing the plurality of resources (Col. 7, lines 63 – 65).

With respect to claim 26, Ramberg teaches the system of claim 1.

Ramberg does not explicitly teach said system wherein the plurality of resources comprises one of printer, workstation, server, databases, security systems, email account, or user account.

However, Sistanizadeh teaches such system wherein the plurality of resources comprises one of printer, workstation, server, databases, security systems, email account, or user account (Fig. 2, showing differing types of resources. Fig. 4 shows server and user network workstations. See also col. 10, lines 58-61).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skills in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the configuration and query capabilities of Ramberg with plurality of resource types taught by Sistanizadeh. One having ordinary skills in the art would be motivated to combine the teaching of Ramberg and

Sistanizadeh in order to provide additional network reliability, security, resource availability, network configuration flexibility and service profile manageability for a plurality of resource types (Sistanizadeh, col. 1, lines 63-67).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 13 – 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U. S. Patent No. 6754885 B1 by Dardinski et al. (hereinafter Dardinski).

With respect to claim 13, Dardinski teaches a method of managing a plurality of resources, each resource having managed objects, wherein each of the objects has associated attribute and task information (Fig. 63, Group and User attributes, and Permissions to perform certain tasks), the method comprising: receiving information from a first resource related to attribute information for a first managed object (Col. 68, lines 55 – 58, first managed object – User; lines 59 – 61 – attributes); receiving information from a second resource related to attribute information for the first managed object (Col. 68, lines 41 - 42, second managed object – Group) , storing the information received from the second resource with the information received from the first resource

in association with the first managed object (Col. 68, lines 61 – 67 – storing user in a group; col. 3, lines 49 – 55 – User inherits parameters from Group); receiving a request to access information related to the first managed object; and accessing stored information from the first and second resources to access information related to the first managed object (Col. 69, lines 3 – 6, see also Fig. 62).

With respect to claim 14, Dardinski teaches a method as defined in claim 13 wherein the information received from the first resource comprises a first property page (Fig. 63 – 64 – User tab) and wherein the information received from the second resource comprises a second property page (Fig. 63 – 64 – Group tab) and wherein the method further comprises: creating a property sheet for the first managed object Col. 68, lines 55 – 58); associating the first property page with the property sheet (Fig. 63, Users property page); and associating the second property page with the property sheet (Fig. 63 – 64 – Group property sheet; col. 68, lines 64 – 67 associating first property page with second property page).

With respect to claim 15, Dardinski teaches a method as defined in claim 14 further comprising: receiving a search request from a client computer system; and searching a plurality of resources in response to the single search request using information associated with the property sheet (Col. 45, lines 63 – 65).

With respect to claim 16, Dardinski teaches a method as defined in claim 15 further comprising the act of sharing search information between resources (Col. 46, lines 22 – 24).

With respect to claim 17, Dardinski teaches a method as defined in claim 14 further comprising: receiving a task request from a client computer system Fig. 1, workstation 11); and in response to the task request, requesting task completion from a plurality of resources (Fig. 1, plurality of resources 10A, 10B, 12, 14, 16).

With respect to claim 18, Dardinski teaches a method as defined in claim 17 wherein the act of requesting task completion from a plurality of resources comprises: identifying two or more resources to configure in response to the task request (Col. 8, lines 35 – 38); and performing the task by accessing the two or more resources identified to perform a task from a client's computer system (Col. 8, lines 50 – 59).

With respect to claim 19, Dardinski teaches a method as defined in claim 13 wherein the act of receiving information from the first and second resources is performed by a configuration manager and wherein the method further comprises: notifying a search manager that search information has been received (Col. 45, lines 65 – 67).

With respect to claim 20, Dardinski teaches a method as defined in claim 13 wherein the act of receiving information from the first and second resources is performed by a configuration manager and wherein the method further comprises: notifying a task manager that search information has been received (Col. 46, lines 3 – 5).

Claim 21 is rejected in view of the above rejection of claim 13. Claim 21 is essentially the same as claim 13, except that it sets forth the invention as a computer program product rather than a method, as does claim 13.

Claim 22 is rejected in view of the above rejection of claim 17. Claim 22 is essentially the same as claim 17, except that it sets forth the invention as a computer program product rather than a method, as does claim 17.

Claim 23 is rejected in view of the above rejection of claim 18. Claim 23 is essentially the same as claim 18, except that it sets forth the invention as a computer program product rather than a method, as does claim 18.

With respect to claim 24, Dardinski teaches a computer program product readable by a computer and having stored thereon a data structure comprising information provided by a first resource relating to attribute information for a first managed object and information provided by a second resource relating to attribute information for the first managed object, wherein the attribute information is utilized in response to a request for information about the first managed object (Fig. 63, hierarchical data structure for Groups and Users).

With respect to claim 25, Dardinski teaches a computer program product as defined in claim 24 wherein the data structure further comprises task information provided by the first and second resources utilized in response to a request for information about the first managed object (Fig. 63, Permissions property page for Groups and Users).

5. **Examiner's note:** Examiner has cited particular columns and line numbers in the references as applied to the claims above for the convenience of the applicant. Although the specified citations are representative of the teachings of the art and are applied to the specific limitations within the individual claim, other passages and figures may apply as well. It is respectfully requested from the applicant in preparing responses, to fully consider the references in entirety as potentially teaching all or part of the claimed invention, as well as the context of the passage as taught by the prior art or disclosed by the Examiner.

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments filed on 07/28/2005 with respect to claims 1-12 and 26 have been fully considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection, necessitated by the Applicant's amendment.

Applicant's arguments filed 07/28/2005 with respect to claims 13-25 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

The Applicants argue – ***"Regarding claim 13, Dardinski et al. does not show the limitation of receiving information from a first resource, where each resource has managed objects, as required by claim 13."***

The Examiner respectfully disagrees. The invention of Dardinski provides extensive reporting capabilities on resources that have managed objects, as evidenced, for example, by Fig. 39 that depicts an IDA report manager object model in the system according to the invention.

The Applicants argue – ***"Dardinski et al. is directed to controlling object appearance, whereas the present disclosure is directed to retrieving and utilizing information from differing resources."***

The Examiner respectfully refers the Applicants to col. 1, lines step 25-26, where Dardinski states that "The invention pertains to control and, more particularly, to methods and apparatus for configuring control systems. The terms "control" and "control systems" refer to the control of a device, process or system by monitoring one or more

of its characteristics. This is used to insure that output, processing, quality and/or efficiency remain within desired parameters over the course of time." Dardinski teaches display of objects, but the main purpose of the invention is system control and configuration, which cannot be done without retrieving and utilizing information from differing resources.

The Applicants argue - ***"Dardinski et al. discloses an administrator entering information about a user, which is very different than receiving information from a first resource, where each resource has managed objects. The resources may be from different hardware and/or software in different networks."***

The Examiner respectfully points out that even though the "different hardware and/or software in different networks" are not mentioned anywhere in the subject group of claims, Dardinski teaches configuration and control of "different hardware and/or software in different networks", as evidenced at least by col. 20, lines 53-56, where he states: "For example, a Network Hierarchy could display a view of the configuration from a System Definition point of view, showing a hierarchy of **networks**, nodes, stations, FBMs and other **hardware.**" It is true that Dardinski "discloses an administrator entering information about a user" - another resource managed by Dardinski, but it is also true that the invention of Dardinski provides extensive reporting capabilities (providing and receiving information) on resources that have managed objects, as evidenced, for example, by Fig. 39 that depicts an IDA report manager **object model** in the system according to the invention *(emphasis added by the Examiner)*.

Conclusion

7. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Vitali Korobov whose telephone number is 571-272-7506. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Friday 8a.m. - 4:30p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Saleh Najjar can be reached on (571)272-4006. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Vitali Korobov
Examiner
Art Unit 2155

VAK
07/06/2005

SALEH NAJJAR
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER